

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Presented) A method of forming an invention disclosure comprises the steps of:

forming an invention disclosure online by entering a plurality of selected information portions into a web-based system;

after each of the plurality of selected information portions are entered, storing each of the information portions in a central storage location;

allowing access to various users comprising at least one inventor of said invention disclosure for reviewing the information; and

allowing on-line access to the status of the invention disclosure, said status comprising where said invention disclosure is in a reviewing and application filing process.

2. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 1 wherein said step of forming includes providing identification information; whereby upon providing identification information to said web-based server, retrieving user information from the directory system in response to the identification information.

3. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 1 further comprising the step of prompting the user for classification information.

4. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 3 further comprising the steps of notifying an evaluator in response to the classification information; prompting an evaluation from the evaluator.

5. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 4 wherein the step of notifying an evaluator comprises the step of generating an e-mail; providing a hyperlink to the disclosure in the e-mail.

6. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 4 wherein the step of prompting an evaluation comprises scheduling an evaluation meeting.

7. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 4 wherein the step of prompting an evaluation comprises ranking the disclosure.

8. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 3 further comprising the step of notifying a patent staff person in response to the classification information.

9. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 8 further comprising the step of prompting a patentability review from the patent staff person.

10. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 1 wherein said central location comprises a database coupled to a web server.

11. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 1 further comprising the steps of identifying co-authors; notifying co-authors of a disclosure with their name associated therewith in the system.

12. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 11 wherein said step of notifying comprises the step of generating an e-mail having a hyperlink therein.

13. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 1 wherein said status comprises where said invention disclosure is in a patent office evaluation process.

14. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 1 wherein said status is provided update via e-mail.

15. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the step of allowing access comprises prompting users for a password.

16. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 1 further comprising the step of accepting a paper submission; and
wherein the step of forming comprises scanning said paper submission into the database.

17. (Previously Presented) An invention disclosure system comprising:
at least one user computer accessible by a plurality of inventors associated with a single invention disclosure;
a server coupled to said at least one user computer;
a database coupled to the server;
said server providing user screens to said at least one user computer to prompt said inventors to provide a plurality of disclosure information to said server, receiving the plurality of disclosure information from said users, storing information in said database after each of the plurality of disclosure information is entered, allowing access to said disclosure after storing the plurality of disclosure information within said database, and prompting said plurality of inventors for invention disclosure approval.

18. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The system as recited in claim 17 further comprising a directory system coupled to said server whereby upon proving identification information to server said server retrieves user information from the directory system in response to the identification information.

19. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The system as recited in claim 17 wherein said server comprises a web server.

20. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The system as recited in claim 17 wherein said user computer comprises a web browser for accessing said server.

21. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The system as recited in claim 18 wherein said user computer comprises a computer aided design (CAD) file viewer coupled to said web browser.

22. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The system as recited in claim 17 wherein said server comprises a web single login to access said invention disclosure.

23. (Previously Presented) A method of forming an invention disclosure comprising:

forming an invention disclosure online by entering a plurality of selected information into a web-based system;

after each of the plurality of selected information is entered, storing each of the plurality of selected information in a central storage location;

allowing access to various users to access the information;

prompting the user for classification information, which refers to a technology area;

notifying an evaluator in response to the classification information; and

prompting an evaluation from the evaluator.

24. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 23 wherein said step of forming includes providing identification information; whereby upon providing identification information to said web-based server, retrieving user information from the directory system in response to the identification information.

25. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 23 wherein the step of notifying an evaluator comprises the step of generating an E-mail; providing a hyperlink to the disclosure in the e-mail.

26. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 23 wherein the step of prompting an evaluation comprises scheduling an evaluation meeting.

27. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 23 wherein the step of prompting an evaluation comprises ranking the disclosure.

28. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 23 further comprising the step of notifying a patent staff person in response to the classification information.

29. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 23 further comprising the step of prompting a patentability review from the patent staff person.

30. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 23 wherein said central location comprises a database coupled to a web server.

31. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 23 further comprising the steps of identifying co-authors; notifying co-authors of a disclosure with their name associated herewith in the system.

32. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 23 wherein said step of notifying comprises the step of generating an e-mail having a hyperlink therein.

33. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 23 further comprising the step of viewing the status of the invention disclosure on-line.

34. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 23 further comprising the step of providing a status update via e-mail.

35. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 23 wherein the step of allowing access comprises prompting users for a password.

36. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 23 further comprising the step of accepting a paper submission; and
wherein the step of forming comprises scanning said paper submission into the database.

37. (Previously Presented) A method of submitting documents comprising:
entering identification information into a user computer;
retrieving user information from a directory system in response to said identification information;
entering disclosure information to create an invention disclosure;
coupling said user information with said invention disclosure;
storing the disclosure in a computer database;
performing a search to determine the state of the art associated with said invention disclosure; and
wherein said search is at least partially directed by at least one inventor of said invention disclosure.

38. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 37 further comprising the step of prompting the user for classification information.

39. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 38 further comprising the steps of notifying an evaluator in response to the classification information, prompting an evaluation from the evaluator.

40. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 37 further comprising the step of notifying a patent staff person in response to the classification information.

41. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 40 further comprising the step of prompting a patentability review from the patent staff person.